THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The required information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Non-Availability of "Chip Card"

3658. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Ltd. has not initiated action to open public call offices with card system;

(b) whether the "Chip Card" has created interest amongst the users;

(c) whether the card is mostly not available with the counters at Central Telegraph Office, Eastern Court, New Delhi and complaints have been lodged time and again;

(d) whether the instruments kept there and elsewhere in the city of Delhi/New Delhi are not properly maintained thus causing inconvenience to public and assisting private operators located nearby;

(e) whether Government would take appropriate measures to develop the system in all places in the country including Delhi and New Delhi; and

(f) if so, the details therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (f). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Latest telecom services for Rajasthan

3659. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide the latest telecom technology facilities like E-mail, Radio-paging VSAT services and other new/latest services in Rajasthan during 1994-95;

(b) if so, what is the time bound programme set for the propose both for postal communication services and latest telephonic facilities/ conversion of telephone exchanges into electronic exchanges etc. during 1994-95; and

(c) what steps proposed to be taken by Government or have been taken so far in this regard and budgetary allocation made, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):

(a) Yes Sir, The following value Added Services have been franchised to India registered companies:—

(i) Radio Paging Service.

(ii) E-Mail Service.

(iii) 64 KBPS Data Services.

Details of these services are available in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below).

(b) (i) The Department of Posts is modernishing counter services in selected important post offices to optimize the benefits of computer based counter machines and this programme is planned to be further empanded during the current year in the country.

(ii) The following phone plus facilities are already available in main electronic exchanges in Rajasthan:—

1. Dynamic STD locking facility.
2. Call waiting .
3. Abbreviated dialling.
4. Call transfer.
5. Hotline.

34, 896 lines of Electro Mechanical Exchanges are planned for replacement by 5000 lines of E-10B, 1896 lines of C-DOT (MAX) and 28,000 lines of Small Electronic Exchanges (less than 2000 lines)

(c) A sum of Rs. 245. 15 crores has been allotted as budget estimate for 1994-95 to Rajasthan Circles for various capital works.

Details steps taken for Value Added Services are available in the Annexure.

Statement

Details of Value Added Services

(a) Radio Paging Services:

Tenders were invited in July, 1992 from the registered Indian Companies for operation of Radio Paging Services on a non-exclusive basis for 27 citites of India. Jaipur was also included

in the tender. Four Companies have been shortlisted for operation of this service in Jaipur City and one company has already signed the licence agreement. As per the licence conditions the licensee has to start the service within one year of signing the agreement.

Tenders have also been invited for operation of Radio Paging Service for 18 territorial circles for rest of the country including Rajasthan.

(b) Electronic Mail Services:

The Department has issued 18 letters of intent to operate Electronic Mail Service on all India basis. Five companies have already signes the licence agreement. As per the licence agreement, the licensee has to provide the service within one year of signing the agreement.

(c) 64 KBPS Data Service via Satellite :

7 companies have been given letters of intent for the operation of 64 KBPS Data Service Via Satellite on all India basis and out of these seven, one company has already signed the licence agreement. As per the licence agreement, the licensee has to provice the service within one year of signing the agreement.

Electronic Mail Service

3660. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Electronic mail service has been started in some areas, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the present number of subscribers;

(c) the charges prescribed for rendering Electronic mail services; and

(d) whether sufficient publicity has been given to this, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, sir. Five Indian Companies have been licensed to operate Electronic Mail Service. The licensees can provide the service anywhere in the country. The licensees have to provide the service in atleast five service areas within one year of signing the licence. The details are as per the enclosed statement-I (*see*).

(b) to (d) Service providers are responsible for publicity and for enrolling subscribers. They have been given one year's time to start the service from the date of signing the licence agreement. The licence fee and ceiling tariff fixed by the DOT are given in Statement II.

Statement-I

List of Licensees for Electronic Mail Service.

S.No.	Name of the Company	Cities	Date of Signing the LA
1.	M/s. ICNET "Sorrento" 6, Lattice Bridge Road, Adyar, Madras-600 020	Anywhere in India	07.01.94
2.	M/s. Dataline Research Technologies (India) Ltd., 31A, Noble Chamber, 4th Floor, Janmabhoomi Marg. Fort, Bombay-400001.	-do-	11.05.94
3.	M/s. Datapro Information Technology Pvt. Ltd. EL-21, Electronic Zone, MIDC Bhosari, Pune-411026	-do-	03.06.94
4.	M/s. Wipro Infotech Ltd., 88, MG Road, Bangalore-560001.	-do-	21.07.94
5.	M/s. Sprint RPG Ltd., Gulmohar House, 161/B-4 Gautam Nagar, Yusuf Sarai, New Delhi-110049.	-do-	10.08.94